

HONORING RAYDELL MOORE'S 35
YEARS AS A POSTAL UNION NA-
TIONAL OFFICER

HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 1999

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to bring to the attention of my colleagues the recognition of Mr. Raydell Moore of Long Beach, California by the American Postal Union (APWU), AFL-CIO, as one of their longest serving national officers. Mr. Moore has served APWU proudly for 35 years as a national officer in the western region.

Mr. Moore was born in Austin, Texas and received has formal education there. While in high school, he played football and was a teammate of Dick (Night-Train) Layne who later played for the Detroit Lions. Mr. Moore graduated from Tillitson College with a B.A. Degree in Chemistry.

Mr. Moore served in the U.S. Air Force beginning in 1945. After his discharge, he began his employment with the Postal Service in June 1952 and later became active with the Union in Long Beach, California.

He was the Executive Vice President of the Long Beach Local in 1963 and became Executive Vice President of the California National Postal Union in 1964.

In 1964, Mr. Moore became the National Postal Union Regional Representative and held that position until 1971, while also serving as the Long Beach Local President between 1965 and 1971. In 1971, the American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO was formed and Mr. Moore was the APWU National Representative between 1971 and 1977. His position was to represent the union at regional level labor-management meetings and resolve disputes with the region on both contract interpretation and employee discipline.

In 1977, Mr. Moore was elected Western Regional Coordinator for the entire Western Region of APWU, the largest geographic area in the United States, representing 13 states and Pacific territories. Mr. Moore has been re-elected every election since then and is one of only 12 officers to serve on APWU's National Executive Board, the highest ranking authority of the APWU.

Mr. Moore has served APWU and its former unions for 35 years with distinction; one of the longest consecutive tenures in labor history. I am proud to salute him for his generous service to the union and the people of the western region of the United States.

MAJOR DRUG TRANSIT COUNTRY
ACT OF 1999, H.R. 2608

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 1999

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, a front page story in last Friday's Miami Herald indicates the Administration has launched a full scale review of the role of Cuba in the drug trade. It's a review that along with many others here in the Congress we fully welcome. We look forward to seeing the Administration's conclusions on Cuba's links to drug trafficking targeting the United States.

The Miami Herald also points out that as part of the State Department's review, lawyers are having a hard time sorting out what a "major" drug transiting nation may be under federal law, and whether the designation of a "major" transit nation should take into account drugs that may just pass over Cuban skies or through its territorial waters on the way to the USA.

While a common sense interpretation of the law should assume that these illicit drugs, either passing over the skies of Cuba or through its territorial waters should be considered a factor in determining whether a nation is a major drug transiting country that substantially impacts the U.S., there appears to be some confusion down at Foggy Bottom.

The bill I introduced today, H.R. 2608 along with Chairman BURTON is very simple, addressing this issue of the major transiting nation list determination under the Foreign Assistance Act Section 481(e) as relates to drugs headed for the USA. This bill merely clarifies that the term "through which is transported" in fact expressly includes drugs passing through the territorial airspace, land and water of a country on the way to our nation. There should be no need for any more legal resource time on this issue.

It will be my intention to move this simple, non-controversial clarification bill through the House International Relations Committee quickly.

There should be no further confusion on this matter, so that the full review of the Cuban illicit narcotics situation not be distracted by endless debate over something as obvious as drugs passing over the skies of Cuba or being dropped into or moving through Cuban waters on the way to our cities and local communities.

Mr. Speaker, I submit the full text of the bill to clarify this situation.

H.R. 2608

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT TO FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1961.

Section 481(e) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2291(e)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"For purposes of paragraph (5)(B), the term 'through which are transported' includes the territorial airspace, land, and water of a country."

DON'T WRITE OFF RURAL
AMERICA

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, rural America is hurting these days and the rest of the country should take notice. The current period of relative economic prosperity has abandoned most sectors of the agriculture economy, often because of deliberate decisions made at the White House.

For example, U.S. trade policy presently favors manufactured products, high tech equipment, and medical supplies in exchange for easy access to American markets for foreign farmers. Nor are trade policies fair for our

farmers and ranchers, Mr. Speaker. Foreign growers enjoy far easier access to our markets than we do to theirs.

Westerners tend to be closely tied to agriculture. That's why so many of my rural constituents find it hard to believe there are actually people in Washington, D.C. who harbor hostility toward them.

Just last month, Mr. Speaker, after his party voted against several rural issues, the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee chairman told reporters Democrats have "written off the rural areas." The DCCC Chairman Rep. PATRICK KENNEDY (R.I.) later admitted he shouldn't have said it. I agree, but he did, and in doing so illustrated the disdain with which some in Congress view rural America.

Coloradans understand America must count on rural areas, not dismiss them. Statistics confirm the importance of rural settings. Agriculture is still America's number one employer providing more jobs, more business transactions, more entrepreneurial opportunities, and more paychecks than any other sector of the economy.

In Colorado alone, agriculture accounts for over 86,000 jobs, resulting in over \$12 billion of commerce. Clearly, Mr. Speaker, agriculture is integral to our economy and should not be ignored or "written off."

Colorado produces an impressive variety of commodities in addition to cattle, wheat, corn, potatoes, sugar beets and dairy products. Growers also raise pinto beans, peaches, carrots, mushrooms, barley, sunflowers, watermelon, oats, sorghum, quinoa and wine grapes. Our ranchers' expertise raising cattle, sheep, lambs, poultry and hogs, is expanding to include specialty livestock—bison, elk, emus, ostriches, and fish.

Agricultural products extend beyond food. Colorado is well-known for its production of fresh-cut flowers, sod and turf grass, and hay. Colorado's agricultural-based inputs also contribute vital components to the manufacturing of soaps, plastics, bandages, x-ray film, linoleum, shoes, crayons, paper, shaving cream, tires, and beer.

As consumers, rural Americans provide markets for goods and services, injecting much-needed capital into the marketplace. Rural purchases of trucks, tractors, houses, implements, fuel, computers, and other items have an enormous impact on the economy providing jobs and income for salespeople, waitresses, homebuilders, real estate agents, feed dealers, mechanics, and bank tellers just to name a few.

Still there are other reasons rural America matters. Colorado boasts over 24,000 farms and ranches, accounting for over half of our state's 66 million acres. People who live on the land are the best environmental stewards. Landowners work actively with soil conservation districts to protect water resources, manage wind erosion, reduce pollution, and control water runoff. In fact, Colorado's farmers are credited with saving an additional 51 million tons of topsoil annually for the past 10 years. They have also seeded 1.9 million acres of private land to permanent grassland under the Conservation Reserve Program, thereby producing thriving wildlife habitat.

Most of all, Mr. Speaker, America's soul is found in its rural communities. A nation launched by planters and preachers, America's founding strength was mustered and sustained by the moral character of rural people. Their values of hard work, honesty, integrity,

self-reliance and faith in God thrive in abundance today.

It is truly unfortunate anyone finds such attributes offensive. These are the very values our country needs if the new Millennium is to be as prosperous as the present.

Clearly, rural America is the bedrock of our Republic. Before more of Washington's elite determine otherwise, they would do well to check their facts, consider the farmer, and possibly even say a word of thanks before supper.

LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION
BICENTENNIAL COMMEMORATIVE
COIN ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. BARON P. HILL

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 19, 1999

Mr. HILL of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I want to offer my support for H.R. 1033, the Lewis and

Clark Expedition Bicentennial Commemorative Coin Act.

This bill will authorize the Department of the Treasury to mint 500,000 one-dollar coins to commemorate the bicentennial of the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

Mr. Speaker, many people don't realize it, but the expedition of these historic partners began at the Falls of the Ohio, in southern Indiana.

In October of 1803, Meriwether Lewis and William Clark joined with other explorers at the Falls of the Ohio to set off on their journey to explore the Louisiana Purchase. The crew departed on October 26, 1803, thus marking Clarksville, Indiana as the actual point of origin for the Lewis and Clark Expedition. From there, the Explorers' remarkable adventures spanned over 8,000 miles of unknown land.

Mr. Speaker, the residents of southern Indiana are proud of this heritage. Currently the three communities of Jeffersonville, Clarksville and New Albany are working together to build the Ohio River Greenway—an extensive project to revitalize the southern Indiana river-

front. The intended completion date for this project is set for 2003, just in time for these three communities to come together in celebration of the 200 year anniversary of the beginning of the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

This bill will help highlight the extraordinary expedition by Lewis and Clark and will provide support for the National Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Council and the National Park Service in efforts to plan and organize events to commemorate the bicentennial of this historic expedition.

And no commemoration would be complete without noting southern Indiana's part in the Lewis and Clark story. I encourage all Americans wishing to retrace the steps of the explorers or to learn more about the importance of the expedition to our nation, to visit the Falls of the Ohio and surrounding area.

I am proud that Congress is taking the initiative to promote and support the commemoration of such a remarkable piece of our American history.